

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the non-final Office Action mailed on September 24, 2007. No fee is due in connection with this Response. The Director is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818. If such a withdrawal is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket No. 112857-779 on the account statement.

Claims 1, 4, 7 to 27 and 30 to 33 are pending in this application. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 28 and 29 were previously cancelled. In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4, 7 to 27 and 30 to 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102. In response, Claims 1, 17, 25, 27, 31 and 33 have been amended. The amendment does not add new matter. In view of the amendment and/or for the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are improper and should be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 4, 7 to 27 and 30 to 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,652,896 to Yamauchi et al. ("Yamauchi"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the reasons set forth below.

Independent Claims 1 and 27 have been amended to recite, in part, a converting means for converting the first natural language into a plurality of representations, the plurality of representations replacing postpositional words of the first natural language. The amendment as discussed above is fully supported in the specification, for example, at page 18, lines 5 to 17. For example, since there exist polysemous sentences in dependency upon conjunction post positional words or conjugation, plural alternate portions replaced by univocal conjugation are generated in such a case. Where these plural conversion results are generated, the conversion results are presented to allow a user to select conversion results that he intends. See, specification, page 20, lines 15-18. In contrast, Applicants respectfully submit that *Yamauchi* fails to disclose or suggest every element of independent Claims 1 and 27 as amended.

Yamauchi fails to disclose or suggest a converting means for converting the first natural language into a plurality of representations, the plurality of representations replacing postpositional words of the first natural language, as required, in part, by Claims 1 and 27 as amended. Instead, *Yamauchi* is drawn to a language conversion system where, if the user edits or selects one of the source-language sentences, a representing pattern corresponding to the selected source-language sentence is decided. See, *Yamauchi*, Figure 88 and col. 50, lines 46-48. At this point, the request from the target-language pattern has been processed. See, *Yamauchi*,

col. 20, lines 47-61. *Yamauchi* discloses that postpositional words are not converted into the target-language until after such processing. See, *Yamauchi*, col. 20, line 62 to col. 21, line 17. For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1 and 27 and Claims 4, 7 to 16 and 30 that depend therefrom are novel, nonobvious and distinguishable from *Yamauchi*.

Independent Claims 17 and 31 have been amended to recite, in part, a second processing means and a second confirmation means provided at a stage preceding a first processing means to thereby carry out execution in advance of confirmation to delete confirmation of result of the first processing means. The amendment as discussed above is fully supported in the specification, for example, at page 41, lines 11 to 16. For example, this deletion is performed in order to apply execution in advance of confirmation as shown in Figure 19B. In contrast, Applicants respectfully submit that *Yamauchi* fails to disclose or suggest every element of independent Claims 17 and 31 as amended.

Yamauchi fails to disclose or suggest a second processing means and a second confirmation means provided at a stage preceding a first processing means to thereby carry out execution in advance of confirmation to delete confirmation of result of the first processing means, as required, in part, by Claims 17 and 31 as amended. Instead, *Yamauchi* is drawn to a language conversion system where, if a result confirmation process is selected by the user, the system receives an input sentence in the confirmation mode. On the other hand, if the result confirmation process is not selected, the last translated sentence selected by the user is obtained as the translation result in the system. The last translation sentence is then displayed on the display unit. See, *Yamauchi*, col. 38, lines 40 to 56. Therefore, confirmation of the translated result is not deleted as currently claimed (the translating being the first processing means). For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 17 and 31 and Claims 18 to 24 and 32 that depend therefrom are novel, nonobvious and distinguishable from *Yamauchi*.

Independent Claims 25 and 33 have been amended to recite, in part, the third language being different from both the first and second languages. The amendment as discussed above is fully supported in the specification, for example, at page 23, lines 11 to 20. For example, in the case where translation from Japanese to German is assumed, English-German translation has generally higher accuracy than Japanese-German translation using automatic machine

translation. See, specification, page 23, lines 11 to 13. In contrast, Applicants respectfully submit that *Yamauchi* fails to disclose or suggest every element of independent Claims 25 and 33 as amended.

Yamauchi fails to disclose or suggest the third language being different from both the first and second languages, as required, in part, by Claims 25 and 33 as amended. Instead, *Yamauchi* is drawn to a language conversion system that converts a source-language into a target-language. Contrary to the Patent Office's assertion, Applicants respectfully submit that kanji and kana do not represent different languages. See, Office Action, page 5, lines 3 to 6. Instead, kanji and kana represent different methods of inputting Japanese on computers. In other words, kanji and kana both correspond to the Japanese language. For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 25 and 33 and Claim 26 that depends therefrom are novel, nonobvious and distinguishable from *Yamauchi*.

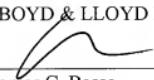
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the anticipation rejection with respect to Claims 1, 4, 7 to 27 and 30 to 33 be reconsidered and the rejection be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified patent application and earnestly solicit an early allowance of same

Respectfully submitted,

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